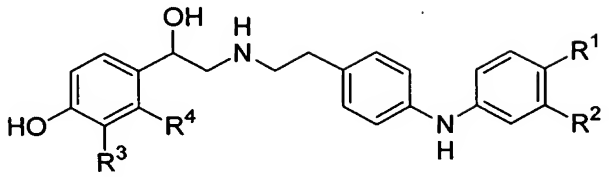
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

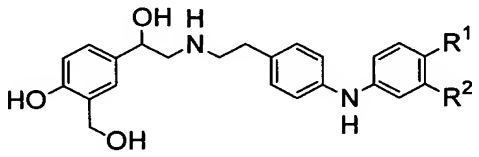
wherein:

R^1 is methoxy or ethoxy, and R^2 is hydrogen or phenyl; or R^1 is hydrogen, and R^2 is phenyl; and

R^3 is $-CH_2OH$ or -NHCHO, and R^4 is hydrogen; or R^3 and R^4 taken together are -NHC(=O)CH=CH-;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate or stereoisomer thereof.

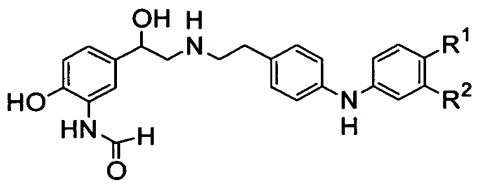
2. The compound of claim 1 which is a compound of formula (II):



(II)

wherein R^1 is methoxy or ethoxy, and R^2 is hydrogen or phenyl; or wherein R^1 is hydrogen, and R^2 is phenyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate or stereoisomer thereof.

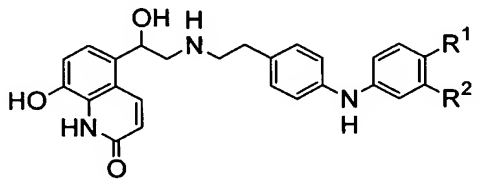
3. The compound of claim 1 which is a compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein R^1 is methoxy or ethoxy, and R^2 is hydrogen or phenyl; or wherein R^1 is hydrogen, and R^2 is phenyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate or stereoisomer thereof.

4. The compound of claim 1 which is a compound of formula (IV):



(IV)

wherein R^1 is methoxy or ethoxy, and R^2 is hydrogen or phenyl; or wherein R^1 is hydrogen, and R^2 is phenyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate or stereoisomer thereof.

5. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is methoxy and R^2 is phenyl.

6. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is ethoxy and R^2 is phenyl.

7. The compound of claim 4 wherein R^1 is methoxy and R^2 is phenyl.

8. The compound of claim 1 wherein the compound is a mixture of stereoisomers wherein the amount of the (*R*) stereoisomer is greater than the amount of the (*S*) stereoisomer.

9. The compound of claim 1 wherein the compound is the (*R*) stereoisomer.

10. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenylphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenylphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine; and

N-{2-[4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate or stereoisomer thereof.

11. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxymethyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenylphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenylphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

N-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-ethoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine; and

N-{2-[4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate or stereoisomer thereof.

12. The compound of claim 11 wherein the compound is *N*-{2-[4-(3-phenyl-4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(8-hydroxy-2(1*H*)-quinolinon-5-yl)ethylamine.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or 4 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

14. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the composition is formulated for administration by inhalation.

15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the composition further comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the composition further comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of a muscarinic receptor antagonist agent, a phosphodiesterase inhibitor agent, an immunoglobulin antibody, a leukotriene antagonist agent, a cytokine antagonist agent, a protease inhibitor, cromolyn sodium, nedocromil sodium, and sodium cromoglycate.

17. A method of treating a disease or condition in a mammal associated with β_2 adrenergic receptor activity, the method comprising administering to the mammal, a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 13.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the disease or condition is a pulmonary disease.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the pulmonary disease is asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

20. The method of claim 17 wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of pre-term labor, neurological disorders, cardiac disorders, and inflammation.

21. The method of claim 17 further comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

22. The method of claim 17 further comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of a muscarinic receptor antagonist agent, a phosphodiesterase inhibitor agent, an immunoglobulin antibody, a leukotriene antagonist agent, a cytokine antagonist agent, a protease inhibitor, cromolyn sodium, nedocromil sodium, and sodium cromoglycate.

23. A method of modulating the activity of a β_2 adrenergic receptor, the method comprising contacting a β_2 adrenergic receptor with a modulating amount of a compound as described in claim 1.